

~~CONFIDENTIAL SECRET~~

ATTENTION: Assistant Director for Policy Coordination  
Assistant Director for Research and Reports

15 June 1951

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Exploitation of Documents Regarding Forced Labor in the Soviet Bloc

- REFERENCES: (1) Memorandum to AD/RR from AD/PC dated 31 May 1951  
(2) Memorandum to AD/PC from AD/RR dated 14 June 1951  
(3) Document entitled "Exploitation of Documents Regarding Forced Labor in the Soviet Bloc", undated, seven sheets (including Tabs A, B, and C)

1. Reference (2) informed you of our approval in principle of plans for Agency participation in what was then understood, on the basis of Reference (1), to be a relatively small project for Agency support of and coordination with the Department of State.

2. Reference (3), which reached us only in the afternoon of 14 June, presents a much more ambitious project. We have not been able in the time that we have had this document and on the basis of the information contained therein to reach a conclusion as to how far O/RR interests indicate the advisability of Agency support of this project. We have already arranged to meet with State (Mr. Bloch) to try to learn just what the present scope of the project is.

3. Our tentative opinion is, since it appears an expenditure of substantial size is contemplated, that this project, if CIA participation is to be approved, should be directed toward a somewhat larger purpose than the collection of information on forced labor alone. We also have doubts as to the value of the material because of its age. If these doubts are resolved, we are at this moment inclined to believe that the funds mentioned could be more wisely spent in some form of cataloguing and indexing the material that it is proposed to study than in reviewing the material for one purpose only. Such cataloguing and indexing would be useful for many purposes that might well be more closely connected with the RR mission than would the development of information on slave labor.

4. We should be interested in conferring further with PC representatives in order to determine in what manner, if any, the interests of the Agency as a whole might best be served by the proposed project.

FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

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NO CHANGE IN CLASS. 11  
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OAD/RR  
15 June 1951

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Acting Deputy Assistant Director

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